

## 2.0 Description of Proposed Alternative Actions

This chapter describes the on-site disposal alternative (Section 2.1) and the off-site disposal alternative (Section 2.2). Ground water remediation is described separately (Section 2.3), although it would be common and integral to both disposal alternatives.

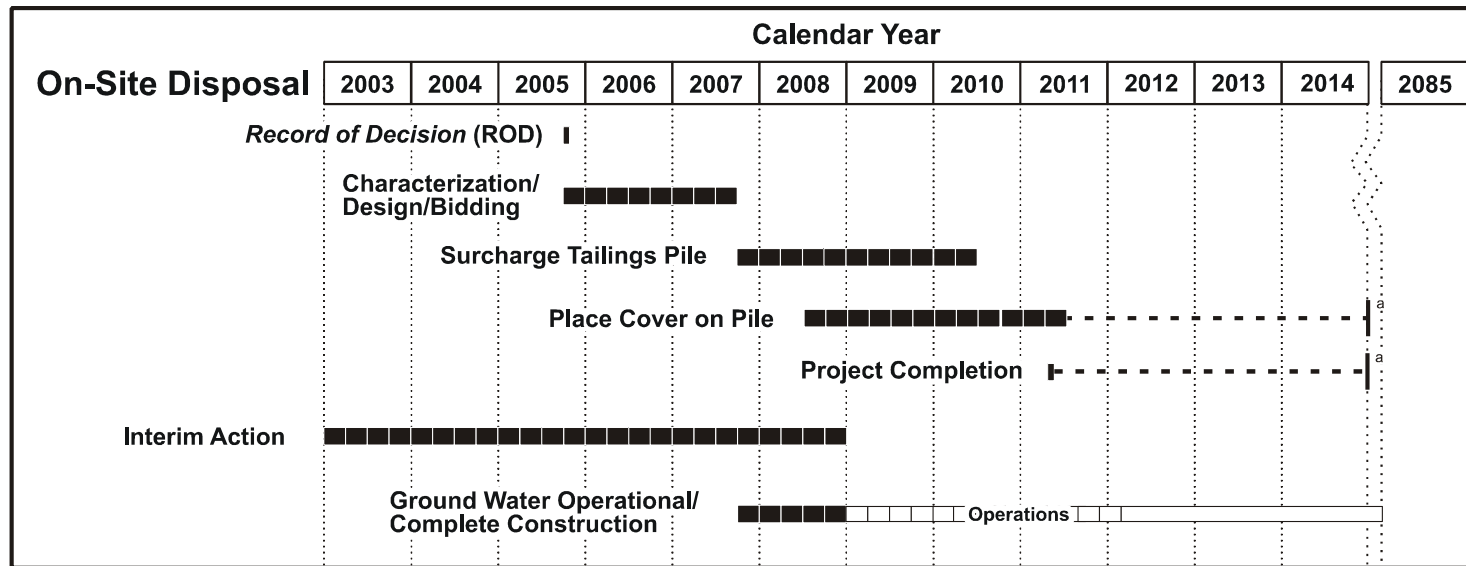
DOE proposes two principal alternatives for remediation of contaminated surface materials at the Moab site and vicinity properties: (1) on-site disposal and (2) off-site disposal. In addition, DOE is proposing one action to remediate contaminated ground water under the Moab site and to protect ground water and surface water quality at the Moab site and at an off-site disposal cell location if the proposed off-site disposal alternative is implemented. Ground water remediation would be an integral element of both the on-site and off-site disposal alternatives. DOE will identify a preferred alternative in the final EIS, after considering the analyses provided in this draft EIS, agency and public comments, and other factors relevant to the decision process, such as cost.

Figure 2–1 shows the overall schedule for completing the proposed action assuming implementation of a single daily work shift. Detailed schedules for (1) the on-site disposal alternative, (2) the off-site disposal alternative under each of the three possible modes of transportation, and (3) ground water remediation are provided in subsequent sections where each alternative action is described in detail.

**On-Site Disposal:** Under the on-site disposal alternative (Section 2.1), the existing tailings pile would be converted into a permanent, engineered, disposal cell into which all on-site and vicinity property contaminated material would be encapsulated. Upon completion of excavation and placement of all contaminated material, the disposal cell would be stabilized, recontoured, and covered. This alternative is similar to that proposed by the Atlas Corporation and described in Section 2.1 of NRC’s 1999 EIS (NRC 1999), with the exception of engineering design changes (for example, under the current proposed design, the cell acts as a positive drainage cover) and the introduction of the proposed ground water remediation. No on-site contaminated materials would be transported off the site. However, contaminated materials at vicinity properties would be transported to the Moab site on public roads.

**Off-Site Disposal:** Under the off-site disposal alternative (Section 2.2), the tailings pile, contaminated on-site soils and materials that are not yet in the pile, and contaminated materials from the vicinity properties would be transported to one of three proposed off-site disposal locations: Klondike Flats, Crescent Junction, or White Mesa Mill. Contaminated materials would be transported to the disposal sites using one of three modes of transportation: truck, rail, or slurry pipeline; however, rail transportation is not an option for transportation to the White Mesa Mill site (see Section 2.5.2 for further discussion). Figure 2–2 shows the locations of the three alternative off-site disposal locations in relation to the Moab site.

**Ground Water Remediation:** Regardless of whether surface remediation involved on-site or off-site disposal, active remediation is proposed for contamination remaining in ground water beneath the Moab site to prevent further degradation of surface water quality. This active remediation would be conducted in conjunction with the application of supplemental standards.



<sup>a</sup> Uncertainty related to pile consolidation (see Section 2.1.1.2).

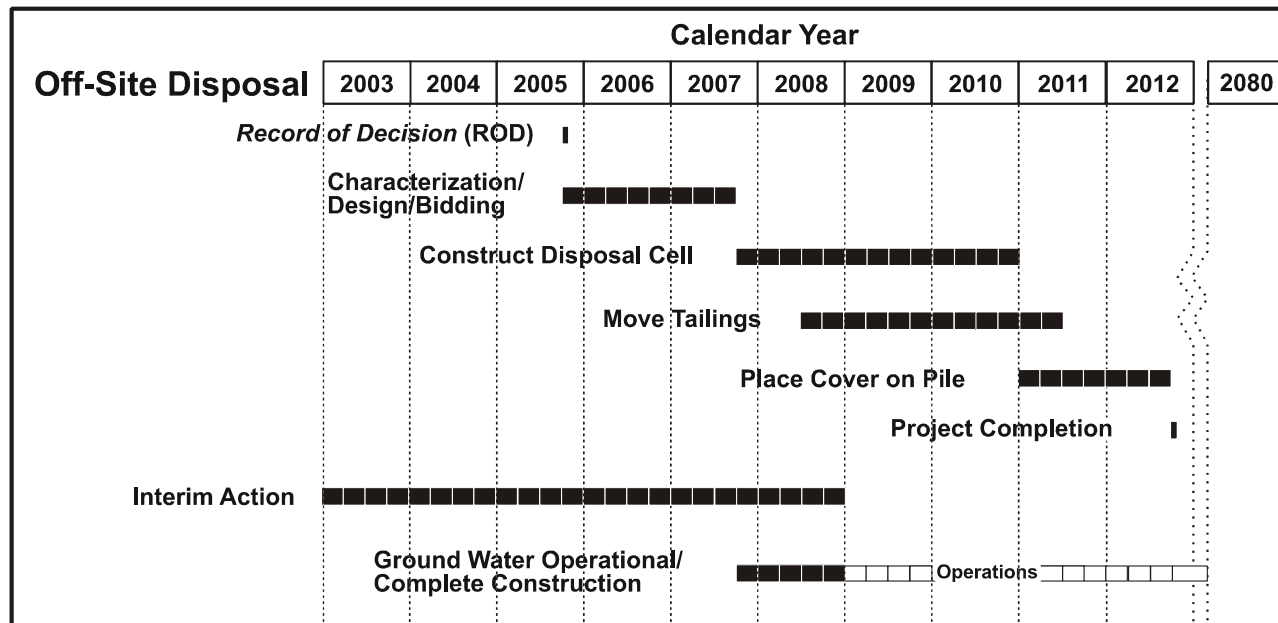


Figure 2–1. Schedule of Activities for On-Site and Off-Site Disposal—Summary